

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-23 (canceled)

Claim 24 (new): A connection setting apparatus that can display and edit a virtual connection between nodes in a network system wherein a plurality of data types are transmitted, the connection setting apparatus comprising:

an acquiring device that acquires connection information from all nodes connected to the network system;

a generator that generates synthetic connection information that can display all of the lines in the network system by using the connection information acquired from all the nodes;

a memory that stores connection state information representing virtual connections in the network system for each data type;

an editor that edits the virtual connections by using the synthetic connection information;

an altering device that alternates the connection state information in accordance with a change made by the editor;

a transmitter that transmits the altered connection state information to the other nodes to make the other nodes establish virtual connections in accordance with the altered connection state information; and

a display controller that controls display of the virtual connections for each data type in accordance with the altered connection status information by using the synthetic connection information.

Claim 25 (new): The connection setting apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the plurality of data types are MIDI data and audio data.

Claim 26 (new): The connection setting apparatus according to claim 24, further comprising a detector that detects an update instruction from a user, and wherein the acquiring device acquires the connection information when the detector detects the update information.

Claim 27 (new): The connection setting apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the connection information represents lines for each data type equipped by each node.

Claim 28 (new): The connection setting apparatus according to claim 24, further comprising a display that displays a synthetic connection in the network system for each data type in accordance with the generated synthetic connections information.

Claim 29 (new): The connection setting apparatus according to claim 28, wherein the synthetic connection is displayed by dividing display regions into a group of transmitting lines and a group of receiving lines.

Claim 30 (new): The connection setting apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the editor edits the virtual connections with the displayed synthetic connections by selecting one line from the group of transmitting lines and another line from the group of receiving lines to make a relationship between the selected two lines.

Claim 31 (new): A connection setting apparatus that can display and edit a virtual connection between nodes in a network system, the connection setting apparatus comprising:

- an acquiring device that acquires connection information from all nodes connected to the network system;
- a generator that generates synthetic connection information that can display all of the lines in the network system by using the connection information acquired from all the nodes;
- a memory that stores connection state information representing virtual connections in the network system;
- an editor that edits the virtual connections by using the synthetic connection information;
- a first altering device that alternates the connection state information in accordance with a change made by the editor;
- a transmitter that transmits the altered connection state information to the other nodes to make all of the other nodes store the same altered connection state information and establish virtual connections in accordance with the altered connection state information;
- a receiver that receives connection state information from other nodes;
- a second altering device that alternates the connection state information stored in the memory in accordance with the received connection state information; and
- a display controller that controls display of the virtual connections in accordance with the connection status information altered by the first or the second altering device by using the synthetic connection information.

Claim 32 (new): The connection apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising the detector that detects an update instruction from a user, and wherein the acquiring device acquires the connection information when the detector detects the update information.

Claim 33 (new): The connection setting apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the connection information represents lines equipped by each node.

Claim 34 (new): The connection setting apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising a display that displays a synthetic connection in the network system in accordance with the generated connections information.

Claim 35 (new): The connection setting apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the synthetic connection is displayed by dividing display regions into a group of transmitting lines and a group of receiving lines.

Claim 36 (new): The connection setting apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the editor edits the virtual connections with the displayed synthetic connections by selecting one line from the group of transmitting lines and another line from the group of receiving lines to make a relationship between the selected two lines.

Claim 37 (new): A program which a computer executes to realize a connection setting apparatus that can display and edit a virtual connection between nodes in a network system wherein a plurality of data types are transmitted, the program comprising the instructions for:

- (a) acquiring connection information from all nodes connected to the network system;
- (b) generating synthetic connection information that can display all of the lines in the network system by using the connection information acquired from all the nodes;
- (c) storing connection state information representing virtual connections in the network system for each data type in a memory;
- (d) editing the virtual connections by using the synthetic connection information;
- (e) altering the connection state information in accordance with a change made by the editing instruction (d);
- (f) transmitting the altered connection state information to the other nodes to make the other nodes establish virtual connections in accordance with the altered connection state information; and
- (g) controlling display of the virtual connections for each data type in accordance with the altered connection status information by using the synthetic connection information.

Claim 38 (new): A program which a computer executes to realize a connection setting apparatus that can display and edit a virtual connection between nodes in a network system, the program comprising the instructions for:

- (a) acquiring connection information from all nodes connected to the network system;
- (b) generating synthetic connection information that can display all of the lines in the network system by using the connection information acquired from all the nodes;
- (c) storing connection state information representing virtual connections in the network system;
- (d) editing the virtual connections by using the synthetic connection information;
- (e) altering the connection state information in accordance with a change made by the editing instruction (d);
- (f) transmitting the altered connection state information to the other nodes to make all of the other nodes store the same altered connection state information and establish virtual connections in accordance with the altered connection state information;
- (g) receiving connection state information from other nodes;
- (h) altering the connection state information stored in the memory in accordance with the received connection state information; and
- (i) controlling display of the virtual connections in accordance with the connection status information altered by the altering instruction (e) or (h) by using the synthetic connection information.